

OFFICIAL DISPATCH

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VIA: AIR MAIL POUCH #2292
SPECIFY AIR OR SEA POUCH

DISPATCH NO. WDC-562

SECRET
SECURITY INFORMATION
CLASSIFICATION

TO : Chief of Station [] DATE: JUN 9 1952

FROM : Chief, EC

SUBJECT: GENERAL

SPECIFIC: Michael OLIAN, []
-OLIAN, OLIANSKY, OLIANS, OLIAN, OLIAN, OLIAN,
OLIANDEN, OLIANS, OLIAN, OLIANOF, OLIANSKY, OLIANS,
OLIANSKI, OLIANSKI, OLIAN, OLIANS, OLIAN, HOLIANSKI,
HOLIANSKY, Michael, Michel, Moche, Michaels, et cetera

REFERENCE: PIRE-7404 KAPOK 1371

1. In compliance with [] request in paragraph 14 of reference, which only recently was brought to the writer's attention, the following information is contained in Headquarters files concerning Subject, when information originates in Bern, Paris, London and Washington.

2. A London report of 18 January 1946, advised that Michel OLIAN, in 1939 or 1940, joined his wife in Switzerland, where he had frequently gone before the war. Subject was suspected of complicity in the smuggling of currency, gold and "shells" into and out of France. He was in close contact with an ex-French Consul in Geneva, who reportedly was involved in the same traffic. In 1942, Subject was frequently contacted in Switzerland by one MOGE (later identified as Paul MOGE), an official of the Geneve-prefecture, Horte Bevele, who used his official car to secure frontier immunity. Subject was thought to be connected with other shady enterprises, mainly commercial, and was very friendly with Gustav WENTZEL, of the firm of the same name, at that time on our (sic) Statutory List. Subject's lawyer was Paul VACHAL, 9 Place Fusterie, Geneva. His wife, Elizabeth, who went to Switzerland shortly after the outbreak of the war, was still living with him in 1942, although at one time she had contemplated divorce.

3. The preceding report advised that in March 1945, Subject, described as a very wealthy Latvian Jew, was reported to have had a hand in practically all German smuggling of money to South America. He was also reported to have had extensive Spanish contacts.

REFERRING OFFICER []

COORDINATING OFFICER []

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DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCES METHODS EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2003 2006

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4. The above report added that the information apparently obtained from G-2 files as of 1 December 1948.

5. A Paris DDCI/INR report of 8 June 1948, disclosed that OLIANOV, alias OLIAN, a specialist in illegal foreign exchange transactions and the "unfreezing" of frozen assets located in the United States, was preparing to return to France with the help of Maitre LERARD, attorney from Paris, who is noted as Antoine DE MONTE'S ~~home de confiance~~. At the time of the report, LERARD was reportedly assisting certain collaborators to return to France. It was not known whether Subject's entry into France would be clandestine or legal, but once there, OLIAN had stated that he would be safe in view of the large sum of money which he had promised to provide. There is no elaboration regarding the persons to whom the money had been promised.

6. An additional Paris DDCI/INR report, dated 4 January 1948, advised the following:

"OLIAN is considered by the French as a person of doubtful patriotic value. In 1941 he was known to be employed by the Germans for the purchase of real estate and tools in the unoccupied zone. On 27 April 1945 he was refused an entry visa into France by the French ambassador at Bern because of his pro-German activity during the occupation. In addition OLIAN is listed as having been expelled from France on 28 April 1938 for undesirability. Another expulsion decree was issued on 21 February 1933, this also for undesirability."

7. A [] report of 14 June 1948, disclosed that OLIAN was suspected of being connected with a group of Nazis and White Russians during the war (including the notorious REINHOLD), who worked for the German SD in Paris by bringing into Switzerland, and selling there, international shares, currencies, and gold, which had been confiscated by the Germans from Jews living in France. In this way, Subject amassed an enormous fortune and was able to forestall Allied and Swiss investigations against him for many years, through his extremely able and influential lawyer, Prof. BUG, in Zurich. The latter reportedly kept OLIAN in a sanatorium, claiming that he was too ill to appear in court. BUG finally procured a visa for Subject which permitted him to leave Switzerland for Italy.

8. Elsewhere in the preceding report, in describing the firm ALM/UMA, it is stated that ALM/UMA was forced to find a wealthy contact after the death of Ing. Herbert SCHNARI, the main financier of the firm, whose other partner, Dr. Hans RAHL, was bankrupt as a result of private speculations. At the time of the death of SCHNARI, the firm had commitments on Thiele fuses in Austria, which amounted

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As a result of the above-mentioned developments, ARTE-TV succeeded the OLETA group.

20. An addl. clause] — reported, 12 January 1861, that a sumptuous house would be built at Paris on 10 January 1861, the results of which, if satisfactory, would lead to a contract for about one half a million (500) which would be expended in the Italian Governmental Quarrel, and would become part of the Italian Government's debts in the future price for the territories in Italy, was reluctantly accepted. The French Government said, certainly and unequivocally, that they would not be bound by any arrangement against him.

12. A Red Crossland report, dated 20 March 1944, advised that 3 million (sic) of shillings money, which the Nazi leaders destined from German people, was deposited in a Northern Scotland bank. Money was listed in the name of Michael O'Leary.

15. On 12 June 1944, an ILRona report advised that on the basis of a lead obtained from the British Legation, it was learned that, in the fall of 1943, a payment of approximately \$300,000 British pounds was made by OILIN to the British Legation. The amount reported was the sum paid to the British Legation by the Credit Suisse, Zurich, Switzerland, based, by order of KILL BORG, and that KILL BORG directed it to the Abinger account. KILL BORG is described as a confidential agent of OILIN. It was suggested that the sum paid to the Credit Suisse and deposited in the Abinger account be proof of clandestine assistance given by the British Legation to OILIN.

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16. A brief report of 3 August 1944, which noted that some of the information concerning OLLIUS was taken from a document found in the German Embassy in Paris by "a highly reliable source", advised that General OLLIUS was working for the High Command of the German Army as chief representative of the SAISON, chief of the French Resistance, but was employed in liquidating his whereabouts in Switzerland after he was placed on the English and American Black List. OLLIUS's wife, the report stated, is the sister of a certain Maxime VANDENBROUCK, also said to be reported by the Nazis from France to the East because of his pronounced Dutch origin. A Dr. REINHOLD FRIESE, also of Germany, appeared to be close to OLLIUS since he addressed his subjects with the surname in the matter of RESISTANCE organizations.

17. On 8 October 1944, a UK and Canadian report disclosed that OLLIUS had recently been released by the Nazis. At the time of the report, three million francs were already reported to have been extorted from him.

18. The following is contained in a UK and Canadian report, dated 29 September 1944:

"OLLIUS, reported to have provided millions of pounds for Oberstleutnant KARL, who has been arrested by the Germans and charged with stealing money, OLLIUS gave his son-in-law DUCASSE 1,000,000 francs."

19. A Headquarters' document, dated 13 September 1944, concerning Communist activities in West Germany, advised that Georges LELIEVRE, one of the Odeon bar in Geneva, is frequently in the employ of OLLIUS, a financier and SPIONAGE. Regarding LELIEVRE, it is noted that his real name is DUCASSE and that he is a notorious alias of Kastan OELIGER and that he is a difficult subject. DUCASSE was believed to be one of the principal agents of the Russian Intelligence Service in Switzerland, and was in the possession of a clandestine Committee installed in his home. Further on in the report, it is stated that "we are absolutely certain that DUCASSE is one of the most important Communist agents in West Germany...and is in contact with various Nazis and French agents, such as Colonel VASCON, Chief of the Alpine Intelligence Service before the demolition of Genoa, Mr. MONTAGNE, Minister of War, and WOLFGANG von STURZ, now STURZ goes to France, and sometimes travels to France, Holland, Belgium and Great Britain."

20. The following report was forwarded to Saab, Paris, from Paris, on 18 November 1944:

"We have recently been advised by our British contacts that the Nazis are attempting to expand their influence and that they are interested in any information which may

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be available which would aid them in justifying his expulsion.

"Our information indicates that OLIAN, who was born in Aug 27, 1907, travels on a Monaco passport, and is either a Lithuanian or a Latvian, was in Paris before the war and possibly during the war. OLIAN follows the usual pattern of war profiteer and has been described as everything from a smuggler to a Safe Haven "big operator". His fortune in Switzerland has been estimated at more than 4,000,000 Swiss francs. OLIAN has often been in contact with the Germans and has profited greatly by these contacts. We regard him as a most undesirable person, one who should be apprehended and interrogated. We believe that such an interrogation would be of interest to us.

"May we ask that you check your records and those of the police in Paris for additional information on OLIAN? We will be "----" 1 if this information can be forwarded as soon as possible. We will, in turn, forward the information to the Swiss, who are attempting to arrange the expulsion."

19. A Safhouse, Bern report, dated 27 December 1945, disclosed that Michael OLIAN had been made the subject of an intensive inquiry. His responses to the interrogation were such, however, as to convince the SCO (presumably the Safhouse Commanding Officer). It is noted that one Mr. OTT solicited assistance in the case, and that the writer of the report suggested that it might be more expedient if an exchange of information were made from the respective desks. Without the approval of higher authority, however, Mr. OTT was not prepared to make his information available.

20. On 19 October 1946, the following Bern Report was received:

*MGB
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"On 28 October (Comments: discrepancy in dates noted) in Milan, Michael OLIAN stated that his one and a half million dollar holdings in the United States would be released through STRICHERZER, a Swiss who owns a trust corporation in Basel, and BARTH, the Director General of Providence in Basel. Together these two will arrange with the French Government to certify his dollar holdings.

"OLIAN is presently negotiating with his Italian associates in the Credito Commerciale, Milan, and the bank CIOONE for the loan of ten million dollars to

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finances a syndicate which would build new roads in Venezuela. The Venezuelan Government would give a guarantee to back the interests and capital of this loan. (Field Comment: It is not determined to what extent the Italian firms which would deliver the equipment for the roads would employ EEA funds.)"

21. A memorandum from the American Legation, Bern, to the American Consulate in Geneva, dated 14 November 1948, which concerned the visa application of Ludwig Heinrich SCHIFFER, probably identical with SCHIFFER of paragraph 14, above, advised that SCHIFFER is a retired German mining official, about 60 years of age. He lived in Paris from 1936 to 1938, at which time he moved to Geneva. In 1939, he was considered suspect and was watched by the Swiss police, especially after his personal friend, one GARNIER, was arrested for espionage. SCHIFFER is also described as a close friend of Michel OLLIAN and OLLIAN's wife.

22. From 9 December 1949 to 20 January 1950, Headquarters files contain nine cables originating in [] and Washington, which are concerned with Subject's attempts to receive Italian nationality and British passports, and his association with [] J.C. [] et cetera. Since most of this information is to be found in the [] diaries, referenced in paragraph 11, above, it is not considered necessary to repeat it at this time.

23. In reply to a query from Washington, regarding old-time (1930) Communists, a [] report of 10 August 1950, advised that Albert KHAMASAT, a well-known trafficker in gold and other contraband, was expelled from Switzerland for this reason during the war. At the time he was expelled, his principal collaborator was Michel OLLIAN. KHAMASAT was believed to be identical or related to one Albert KHAMASAT, a Communist.

24. Finally, the following information is contained in a [] report of 8 September 1950:

"Michel OLLIAN's negotiations to sell forces in Italy have as yet shown no results. The Italians have specified that the original timing must be changed from 30 to 40 seconds and, in addition, technical difficulties have arisen because of the oddly-shaped shell nose used by the Italian Army.

"ARMAVIMA A.G. continues to maintain that although large stocks of time fuses are still available for sale, no Soviet or Soviet satellite offers have been accepted."

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28. Concerning the attachments, which should add considerably to background information on Subject, a [] comment regarding Attachment No. 4 advised that the documents originated in the Department of Justice and were forwarded to DDCI/AM through [] without the knowledge of the Department of Justice that DDCI/AM was to receive them. Attachments Nos. 3 and 6 were contained in unascertained Headquarters material regarding OLAH and there was no indication of their origin or date.

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NO ATTACH. BY FOR FILE /RC
Attachments 7

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